

**What is claimed is:**

1           1.       A communication system comprising:  
2           a client-side group email folder accessible by each user in a predefined group of  
3 users; and  
4           a group email message in the client-side group email folder, the group email  
5 message having indicators, each indicator corresponding to a user in the predefined group  
6 of users, each indicator being configured to indicate whether the corresponding user has  
7 acted upon the group email message.

1           2.       The system of claim 1, wherein each indicator comprises a first setting, the  
2 first setting indicating that the group email message has not been acted upon by the  
3 corresponding user.

1           3.       The system of claim 2, wherein each indicator further comprises a second  
2 setting, the second setting indicating that the group email message has been acted upon by  
3 the corresponding user.

1           4.       The system of claim 1, wherein each indicator is further indicative of  
2 whether the corresponding user has selected the group email message.

1           5.       The system of claim 1, wherein each indicator is further indicative of  
2 whether the corresponding user has opened the group email message.

1           6.       The system of claim 1, further comprising a second indicator indicative of  
2       whether the corresponding user has deleted the group email message.

1           7.       The system of claim 1, further comprising means for indicating whether a  
2       user has deleted the group email message.

1           8.       The system of claim 1, wherein the indicator is an extensible markup  
2       language (XML) tag corresponding to a user in the predefined group.

1           9.       The system of claim 1, wherein each user represents a unique individual.

1           10.      A communication method comprising the steps of:  
2       providing indicators in a group email message, the group email message being  
3       located in an inbox, each indicator corresponding to one of the users in a predefined  
4       group of users, each indicator having a setting; and  
5       changing the setting of one indicator in response to the email message being acted  
6       upon by its corresponding user.

1           11.      The method of claim 10, wherein the step of providing indicators  
2       comprises the step of providing read indicators, each read indicator corresponding to one  
3       user in a predefined group of users, each read indicator being configured to indicate  
4       whether its corresponding user has read the email message.

- 1           12.     The method of claim 10, wherein the step of providing indicators
- 2     comprises the step of providing delete indicators, each delete indicator corresponding to
- 3     one user in a predefined group of users, each delete indicator being configured to indicate
- 4     whether its corresponding user has deleted the email message.